

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims are 6-9. Claims 3-5 which the Examiner indicated contained allowable subject matter have been rewritten in independent form as new claim 6-8 respectively. Accordingly, claims 3-5 have been canceled along with claims 1-2. New independent claim 9 has also been added directed to a method and incorporating the subject matter of claim 3. Reconsideration is expressly requested.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kimbrough et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,672,918* in view of *Tran et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,224,010*. Claim 2 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kimbrough et al.* in view of *Tran et al.* and further in view of *Kobayashi et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,392,472*. The Examiner has also indicated, however, that claims 3-5 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

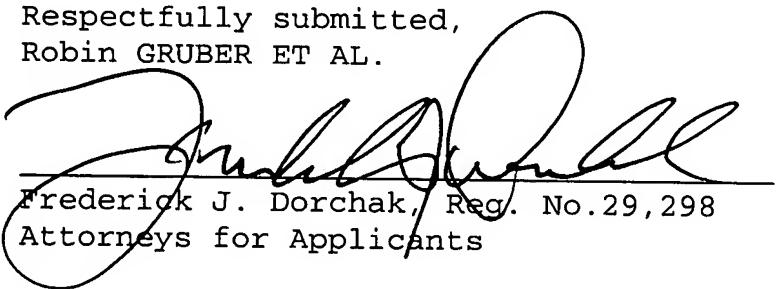
In response, without conceding the propriety of the rejections and in order to expedite prosecution of this case, Applicants have rewritten claims 3-5 in independent form substantially as new claims 6-8, and have canceled claims 1-5. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 6-8 are now in condition for allowance.

New claim 9 is directed to a method for suppressing latch-ups occurring in an electronic circuit and like canceled claim 3 (and new claim 6) recites a protective circuit comprising a voltage controller adapted to be switched off and allowing for adjustment of a current limitation, an actuator, a comparator for detection of undervoltage, two monoflops, a short-circuiting switch with current limitation, and at an output at least one capacitor. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new claim 9 is in condition for allowance as well.

In summary, claims 1-5 have been canceled, and new claims 6-9 have been added. A check in the amount of \$100 is enclosed for the payment of the one additional independent claim over three for a small entity. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully

requested that the claims be allowed and that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin GRUBER ET AL.



Frederick J. Dorchak, Reg. No. 29,298  
Attorneys for Applicants

COLLARD & ROE, P.C.  
1077 Northern Boulevard  
Roslyn, New York 11576  
(516) 365-9802

FJD:djp

Enclosure: Check in the amount of \$100.00

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 5, 2007.



Kelly Espitia

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